



Paul Davies (left) who plays Jesus, and Dan Wavell as Judas, in rehearsals for the passion drama

Insight into Jesus' crucifixion

PAUL Davies will get some idea what it feels like to hang on a cross this Easter.

The 36-year-old will be playing Jesus in the Brighstone Passion Drama on Good Friday - and will portray the crucifixion scene outside the village hall.

Paul, who works as a National Trust warden and goes to St Mary's Church, hopes the experience of portraying Jesus sharpens his own faith.

"I've been looking at some of the Bible commentaries to get a

feel of some of the details of the gospel story," he said. "I am open to my own faith being challenged and me being changed as a result. I also think people in the village will be touched by seeing this, and will come to know Jesus through it."

Paul's boss is also involved - Robin Lang, 43, who is the National Trust's head warden for the whole island, is playing the disciple James.

The father-of-two, who also goes to St Mary's, said: "It is an

amazing opportunity to bring our beliefs out of the church."

His son, Thomas, 10, has the first line of the entire play as the boy who spots Jesus approaching Jerusalem on a donkey.

The passion drama starts at 4pm on April 14 in Wilberforce Road. Actors and singers will portray the last week of Jesus' life, including his crucifixion and resurrection, in various locations around the village.

It is being directed by retired priest the Rev Derick Stevenson.

Vicars get active to help charities

Make your youthwork geared to mission

TWO vicars from around Fareham are combining keeping fit with raising cash for charity.

The Rev Stephen Girling, from Holy Rood Church in Stubbington, is cycling from London to Paris for the National Autistic Society from April 21. And the Rev Jeremy Dussek, from St Columba's Church, is running the London Marathon two days later for the Rainbow Centre.

Stephen, who is normally only seen around the parish on his bike, will cycle 300km in three days with 40 others from around the UK. They will pass through Newhaven and Dieppe before finishing under the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

He is taking part in the ride in memory of Matthew Thorne, a 19-year-old former member of Holy Rood who was tragically killed in a road accident last November while studying at Bath Spa University. Matthew was dyspraxic and had some autistic tendencies.

"Having faced many educational difficulties in his childhood, Matthew made it to university against all the odds, eventually becoming a gifted graphic designer," said Stephen.

"The cycle ride will help raise valuable funds towards the support of those with the particular special needs that result from autism, a lifelong



left: Stephen Girling gets on his bike; right: Jeremy Dussek trains at the Rainbow Centre



developmental disability."

The National Autistic Society is the UK's leading charity for people with autism and their families. It runs a helpline, an advocacy for education service, befriending scheme and parent support group, as well as specialist schools and day centres.

His colleague, Jeremy, is running the marathon in aid of the Rainbow Centre, which was one of the charities our diocese raised money for as part of the Bishop's Lent Appeal

last year. It is also one of the charities supported by the Mayor of Fareham in 2005-6.

The Rainbow Centre, now based at Cams Hill School, aims to help children with cerebral palsy using a system of learning called Conductive Education.

More than 400 children have been through its doors over the past 15 years. Last year's Bishop's Lent Appeal raised £8,800 for the charity.

"I'm the mayor's chaplain, and met the Rainbow Centre's founder, Helen Somerset-How, at last year's mayor's lunch," said Jeremy. "I've been involved in all sorts of ways since then - we did five Christingle services here last December, and an Advent service

in St Columba's."

Jeremy is one of seven runners in the marathon raising money for the centre. He reached £1,000 in sponsorship in his first 10 days of fundraising.

The Rainbow Centre will move to its new building on Cams Alders recreation ground next month after successfully raising £1m. The money raised by Jeremy and others will go towards the daily running costs of the centre.

To sponsor them, go to either www.justgiving.com/stephengirling or www.justgiving.com/jeremydussek. You can write for a sponsor form to the Rev Stephen Girling, Crofton Vicarage, 40 Vicarage Lane, Fareham, PO14 2JX, or contact Jeremy on 01329-843705.

ANYONE interested in the challenge of telling young people the gospel is invited to hear more about how to make youthwork mission-shaped.

Tim Sudworth, author of the new book *Mission-Shaped Church - Youth* and Guildford diocesan youth adviser, will be speaking twice in our diocese on May 11 - once on the mainland and once on the Isle of Wight.

Described as 'a challenge to beige theology', the sessions will pick up on some of the themes outlined in the Church of England's seminal recent report entitled *Mission-Shaped Church*. It will look at the challenge of young people today, the challenges faced by the Church and ways of navigating through it all.

The events happen at Cathedral House in Old Portsmouth between 10am to 11.30pm, and then at St Mark's Church, Wootton, from 1.30pm until 3pm the same day.

They have been organised jointly by our youth and children's work adviser, Ben Mizen, and our diocese's evangelism group, which is chaired by our director of mission, the Ven Peter Hancock.

"This is an exciting event that Peter and I have put together to encourage and stimulate more thought on mission work with young people," said Ben.

"Tim's book has just been published by Church House Publishing, and it's very timely that we hear from him just now. We have a number of challenges and opportunities that are specific to this diocese, and this will be a good chance to discuss them."

For more information and directions to venues, contact Ben Mizen on 023-9282 2053.



Matthew Thorne